

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Page 5, replace the first paragraph starting at line <sup>5</sup>~~7~~ with the following:

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The degradation signal for ubiquitylation via the N-end rule pathways is termed an N-degron and comprises the primary destabilizing N-terminal residue and an internal lysine which is the site of ~~ubiquitylation~~ ubiquitylation. Destabilizing N-terminal residues can be generated through proteolytic cleavages of specific proteins and other N-terminal modifications which reveal destabilizing residues at the new N-terminus. The residues that are exposed or modified to reveal an N-degron have been termed a pre-N-degron or pro-N-degron. For example, Sindbis virus RNA polymerase is produced during viral infection through site-specific cleavage of the viral polyprotein precursor and carries an N-terminal Tyr that has been shown in rabbit reticulocyte lysates to target the protein for ubiquitylation via the N-end rule pathway (deGroot et al., 1991, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A., 88:8967-8971). Another example is RGS4, whose N-terminal degradation signal is generated through a series of N-terminal modifications including (i) removal of N-terminal Met and exposure of Cys-2 at the N-terminus, (ii) oxidation of Cys-2 into cysteic acid, and (iii) conjugation of Arg to the N-terminus of the protein (Kwon et al., 2002, Science, 297: 96-99).

Page 42, replace the fourth paragraph starting at line 25 with the following:

A person of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that the present invention relates not only to the specific protein sequences disclosed in the specification, but also to protein variants thereof such as fragments, analogs and/or derivatives. A protein variant of a specific protein sequence preferably retains at least one biological function or activity of the specific protein sequence, for example the ability to be ubiquitylated via the N-end rule pathway or the ability to act as a substrate for a protease that exposes an N-degron[[],] etc.